

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2015

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: LaPointe, Campbell, Idleman, Pitts, Dumas, Fedler, Gang

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

SUPERVISORS: Shaw, Hicks, O'Brien, Armstrong

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, OFA Director

Kathy McIntyre, Assist. Director Public Health

Sam Hall, Director Veterans Services

Mike Gray, Youth/Alternative Sentencing

Media & Public

Kevin Hayes, County Administrator

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Patty Hunt, Public Health Director

Rob York, Mental Health Director

Tina McDougall, Financial Manager PH

Al Nolette, Treasurer

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1) Call to Order

2) Accept Minutes – December 3, 2014

3) Department Reports/Requests:

A. Social Services

1. Discuss Direct Care Worker 2% Statutory Trend Factor and Budget Impact

B. Mental Health

1. Agency Overview

2. Budget Amendment Request

C. OFA/ADRC – Program Updates

D. Youth Bureau – Program Updates

E. Public Health

1. Medicaid Revalidation Service Coordination – Preschool

2. WIC Requests

3. Requests to Move Grant Monies

4. Agency Updates

4) Other Business

5) Adjournment

In the absence of Chairman LaPointe, Ms. Idleman called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2014 meeting was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Gang and Mrs. Dumas and adopted.

SOCIAL SERVICES – Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner, addressed the following items with the committee, talking points handout attached:

Chairman LaPointe in attendance.

- Discuss Director Care Worker 2% Statutory Trend Factor and Budget Impact – This impacts the department through their foster care expenses. This 2% increase was included in the 2014-2015 State Budget. This impacts the children in foster care, adoption subsidies and youth placed through school districts in facilities. The increase is not fully funded. The State did increase the amount of their share of the program costs but there is still a local cost estimating an additional \$12,000. Forty children are in foster care, approximately seventy two have adoption subsidies and five youth placed through school districts. Another 2% Statutory Trend factor will be effective April 1, 2015 for the Director Care Workers and Clinical Service Workers and she is unsure of the local impact. Also regarding Foster Care budgeting, they did receive a bill in January for a youth placed by the school in the amount of

\$43,800 for September through December. The school district places these youth directly, it is not done through the Department of Social Services. The department does contact the school districts for information on these placements for budget purposes.

- Day Care/Child Care Funding – This is a program that allows eligible individuals to have assistance for paying for day care while they work. This is a work support program. The department's eligibility level is at 200% of the poverty level. Regarding funding, the department receives block grants twice a year and if there is any funding leftover, it can be rolled over to the next year's expenses but it has been cut by 40%. During these difficult budgeting times, the department operates within the block grant amounts and does not offset expenses with any local dollars. This has worked because people were not employed. With the reduced funding and the roll over being cut, predicting they will be short and they plan to start closing cases, 25 cases. They will start cutting cases which have been utilized the longest and those recipients have been notified. If they had not made this change, they estimated being short by \$141,000 (local dollars) if they kept at the same level as last year. Kevin recommends the committee consider allowing Tammy to spend some local dollars because these numbers were estimates and they are over a two-year period. The department has cut \$8,000 per month. The committee recommends get as close as she can. The County Administrator stated even with the \$8,000 cut, Social Services will probably be spending some local dollars it is just a matter of how much. She is trying to match the revenue and appropriations. The Day Care program is unique for each county and each county determines the percent of the poverty level to qualify for the service. If the plan is changed it requires notification to the State and a public hearing. A motion to let Tammy get as close as possible, keep an eye on the program and get as close as possible, was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Dumas, Ms. Idleman and Mrs. Fedler. Discussion. The County Administrator stated this is the prudent way of doing it. She may be a little over; some expenditures. Close the cases and live as close as possible. Tammy will get more information about changing the plan. The motion to let Tammy get as close as possible, keep an eye on the program and get as close as possible, was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mrs. Dumas, Ms. Idleman and Mrs. Fedler and adopted.
- Updates:
 - Increase in SNAP Applications – Turbo tax software has built into it the income level that would generate the question about benefits, it then prepopulates an application and sends it to Social Services. SNAP is a fully funded federal program.
 - Personnel - They have been working on backfilling open positions. Hollie Rapp, Division Director is retiring effective March 12, 2015 and Eileen Irwin, a 16-year employee of the department, will transition into the Division Director position.
 - NY Public Welfare Conference in Albany – She will be involved along with the Sheriff in presenting a workshop at the conference, It takes a Community to Raise a Child in conjunction with their Community Now training through the Butler Institute. She will be on the executive committee for this association as the Treasurer that will require some overnight stays. The County Administrator has approved overnight stays for this conference.
 - Roger Wickes, County Attorney, stated with criminal responsibility being raised from 16 to 18 that change will impact DSS and also the Youth Bureau. He stated it is in the state budget this year and we need to pay close attention to these changes.

MENTAL HEALTH - Rob York, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Agency Overview – Distributed and explained the attached handout providing an overview of the agency.
- Budget Amendments:
 - A motion to amend the budget and contract for Community, Work and Independence, Inc. to add \$6,516 (100% State Aid) received to facilitate the Sheltered Workshop transformation process was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted. Funds are to assist with a redesign of their Sheltered Workshop.
 - A motion to authorize the Office of Community Services to enter into an Inter-municipal agreement with Saratoga and Warren Counties detailing the operation of a Tri-County Children and Youth Mobile Mental Health Crisis Team, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney was moved by Mr. Gang, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted. They have received some funding through Warren County approximately \$500,000 from the State (state aid) to develop a tri-county children and youth (4 – 17) mobile mental health crisis team. Provide services in a regional manner. The goal is to avoid a trip to the emergency room. A master's level clinician would be available to respond to a mental health crisis. Funds to flow through Warren County.
 - A motion to authorize the Office of Community Services to enter into an Inter-municipal Agreement with Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Warren Counties detailing the operation of a 5-County Regional Adult Mobile Mental Health Crisis Team in a form to be approved by the County Attorney was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted. Funds will flow through Rensselaer County. This covers five counties and the funding is \$1.190M. The inter-municipal agreement will allow them to be involved in the management, oversight and selection of the provider and allow our residents to have access to these services.
- Community Services schedule of meetings, attached.
- Flyer on the Hometown vs. Heroin Addiction Forum distributed, on file.
- Office of Community Services 2015 goals and 2014 highlights, attached.

OFA – Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director, addressed the following item with the committee:

- Program Updates: Distributed attached handout detailing Savvy Caregiver program in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York. Funding totals \$4,125; 90% Federal IID funds \$3,712 and 10% local share \$413 that is already in the 2015 budget. "The Savvy Caregiver Program (SCP) is a training program for Caregivers. Caregivers are defined as persons like you who care for family members who have a dementing illness such as Alzheimer's disease." The goal of the program is to provide tools and a support system for caregivers.

YOUTH BUREAU – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Program Updates:
 - Held a safe sitter program in Greenwich. Seventeen youth trained. They plan to expand to Whitehall in the spring.

- Request for two unpaid internships: Empire State College student from Fort Ann, 60 hour internship and Bryant and Stratton College student from Hudson Falls, criminal justice major. A motion to approve two unpaid internships was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted.
- Lifeguard Training for the Town Recreation Programs – Two community volunteers will provide this training on February 16-17 and 19-20 from 10AM to 1PM at the Hudson Falls School pool. The maximum will be ten youth, ages 15 and up. The Youth Bureau will cover the cost. Contact the Youth Bureau to register. Mike will notice school districts of this training opportunity.
- Winter Fest – February 7th at Lake Lauderdale Park – He thanked Kathy McIntyre, Public Health, and all those involved in the planning. Insurance coverage has been addressed and DPW is going to plow for access. A full day of activities are planned.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Patty Hunt, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Medicaid Revalidation Service Coordination for the Preschool Program – A motion to approve Medicaid Revalidation Service Coordination fee for the Preschool program in the amount of \$542 as required per the Affordable Care Act was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mrs. Dumas and Mr. Gang and adopted.
- WIC Requests – A motion to transfer funds, \$500, between line items to replace a baby scale was moved by Mr. Gang, seconded by Mrs. Dumas and adopted.
- Requests to Move Grant Monies – A motion to recognize unspent grant funds in the 2015 budget; Radon Grant \$18,076.77, Preparedness Grant \$30,337 and Child Passenger Safety Program \$10,919, was moved by Mr. Gang, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted.
- Agency Updates:
 - Winter Fest Flyers distributed, on file.
 - OMIG (Office of the Medicaid Inspector General) Preschool Audit – reported it was a clean audit, no findings, and no monetary take back of funds.
 - Transition from CHHA to Licensed Home Care Service Agency – During this transition, she mentioned that they would be looking at their electronic medical records system. They currently have the Delta System and they are going to be sun setting that particular software product and moving to a Windows based system at a considerable cost; ±\$30,000. Currently, Public Health pays Delta about \$4,000 per month. They have been looking at other programs. They are looking into Medent Software Program that would be an increased cost to get started but then the monthly cost drops considerably, \$500 per month. This software meets their needs. The initial startup cost is \$51,000 with an anticipated total cost of between \$55,000 and \$56,000. It would cost about \$65,000 to move forward with Delta. Should have monies within the budget to cover the startup cost for change to Medent. This proposal has been submitted to IT for review. A motion to authorize permission to move forward with Medent was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS:

VETERANS – Sam Hall, Director, addressed the following item with the committee:

- Out of State Travel Approved in 2015 Budget – A motion to authorize out of state travel for Veterans Service Director and Deputy Director, both attend National Association of

County Veterans Service Officers training in Appleton, WI and Director only attend the Vietnam Veterans of America National Convention training in Springfield, IL, to maintain certifications was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted. Estimated cost \$3,400 for National Association of County Veterans Service Officers Association conference and no cost to the County for the Vietnam Veterans of America National Convention.

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors